

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A device ~~for marking and concurrently collecting~~ configured to mark and concurrently collect a sample from an individual, the device comprising[:
a spike (4); and
a female part of a tag (1), comprising:
a tag part containing a through opening; and (1a);
a chamber (2) including a chamber-part (2a) and a ring-part (2b) arranged
on opposite sides of a through opening (1a) of the female part of the tag (1),
wherein the chamber-part (2a) and the ring-part (2b) are each substantially formed
~~both~~ of a rigid material, and
wherein the spike (4) is configured to receive means (5) for collecting a sample
and for closing a container (6), wherein the spike comprises an outer diameter which increases
from the front end to a maximum and decreases stepwise to an outer diameter essentially
corresponding to an outer diameter of the ring-part, to form a head, and the chamber is
configured such that once the head is introduced into the chamber, the chamber substantially
prevents the spike from being removed from the female part of the tag. and is designed such that
its outer diameter increases corresponding to an outer diameter of the ring part (2a), to form a
head (4a);
~~with the chamber (2) preventing the spike from being removed from the female part of a
tag once introduced.~~

2-15 (Canceled)

16. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein either one or both of the chamber-
parts are substantially formed of at least one of metal and plastic.
17. (New) The device according to Claim 16, wherein the plastic comprises polyamide.
18. (New) The device according the Claim 16, wherein the chamber-part and the ring-part
are connected via ultrasonic welding.

Appl. No. : **Not Yet Assigned**
Filed : **August 25, 2006**

19. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the ring-part comprises a conical area surrounding the through opening, the conical area configured to assist introduction of the spike head into the ring part.

20. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the ring-part has a form extending through the opening of the female part of the tag to contact the chamber-part of the chamber.

21. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the chamber-part has one or more protrusions configured to extend into recessions or through openings formed in the female part of the tag.

22. (New) The device according to Claim 21, wherein the protrusions are configured to extend through respective openings in the female part of the tag and into respective recessions formed in the ring-part of the chamber.

23. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the female part of the tag has a recess arranged around the through opening and configured to receive the ring-part of the chamber.

24. (New) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the device is marked with at least one of a numeric or alphanumeric code in plain writing, a barcode, and a 2D Code and an Electronic Identification Device.

25. (New) A method of marking an individual, the method comprising placing a tag on the individual with the device of Claim 1.

26. (New) The method according to Claim 25, wherein the individual is a non-human animal.

Appl. No. : **Not Yet Assigned**
Filed : **August 25, 2006**

27. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the non-human animal is one of the following: sheep, goat, pig, horse, rabbit, mouse, game animal, buffalo and pet.

28. (New) The method according to Claim 25, wherein the individual is deceased.

29. (New) A method of marking and concurrently taking a sample of an individual, the method comprising:

collecting a tissue sample from the individual; and

applying a tag to the individual by connecting a spike to a chamber through a ring part, a container being releasably attached to the chamber, wherein the tissue sample is placed in the container, the container is closed, the spike enters the chamber such that the spike cannot be removed from the chamber, and the closed container containing the tissue sample is released from the chamber.

30. (New) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the ring part has a conical area surrounding the through opening, and the spike is assisted into the ring part by the conical area.

31. (New) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the chamber-part comprises one or more protrusions and the female part of the tag comprises recessions or through openings, and the method further comprises inserting the protrusions into the recessions or through openings.

32. (New) The method according to Claim 31, wherein the ring part of the chamber has one or more recesses and the method further comprises inserting the protrusions into the through openings in the female part of the tag and into the recesses.

33. (New) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the female part of the tag has a recess arranged around the through opening and the method further comprises receiving of the ring-part of the chamber by the recess.

Appl. No. : **Not Yet Assigned**
Filed : **August 25, 2006**

34. (New) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the individual is a non-human animal.